May 27, 2007 Morning Highlights 2007-37 Contact: Laurie Heupel, BLM AFS, 356-5512

HIGHLIGHTS

- There have been a total of 162 fires reported this year. Total acreage burned is 25,590 acres. There were 5 new fires reported yesterday. There are 16 active fires in the state; 1 is on the military lands, 2 in the Tanana Zone, 7 in the Fairbanks area, 1 in the Kenai area, 1 is near Tok, 1 is located on the Chugach National Forest, 1 in the Anchorage area and 1 in the Southwest area. All are being monitored closely.
- A Red Flag Warning remains in effect for northern and central interior and the north slopes of the Alaska Range today. This warning is from Noon to 10 PM today.
- The Mooseheart fire is now at 16,465 acres. Zone surveillance flew the fire and reported intense fire behavior with short runs, intermittent crowning in Black Spruce. The Tanana #2 Crew was hired. The Type 2 crews were shuttled to the fire to assist with allotment protection at the confluence of the Tanana and Cosna Rivers. The Chena IHC continued assisting with line construction and cabin protection, in preparation for a possible burnout operation tomorrow, to protect the ICP and structures on Mooseheart Lake. The goal is to protect the Incident Command Post and the structures on Mooseheart Lake. 73 personnel are on site.
- 20 firefighters are on site continuing suppression efforts on the Pandora Fire, near Fairbanks. The fire has burned deep into the duff layer, especially in the areas of white spruce. The deep burning fires require extensive mopup. Control of the fire should be attained by the end of the day.
- The Ferry Fires ignited by faulty railroad equipment on May 25, 2007 are under investigation. Managers for the Alaska Railroad are inspecting equipment to determine the cause of the string of fire along the railroad right of way. Railroad officials have agreed to position two 10,000 gallon water cars on the rails. The rail grinding operation which has caused several fires last year, including the Fort Richardson fire, has been suspended until conditions moderate. 52 personnel are on the fire.

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES

- Alaska Interagency Coordination Center: http://fire.ak.blm.gov
 - Map of Current Fires: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/predsvcs/maps.php
 - o Situation Report: http://fire.ak.blm.gov/content/aicc/sitreport/current.pdf
- National Fire Situation: http://www.nifc.gov/nicc/sitreprt.pdf
- Creating Defensible Space: http://firewise.org/ and http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/pdfs/02firewise.pdf
- Department of Transportation (Road Closure Info): (907) 451-2240, http://511.alaska.gov
- Division of Forestry, Burn Permit Info: (907) 451-2626, http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry/fire/
- Department of Environmental Conservation (Smoke Concerns): http://www.dec.state.ak.us/air/am/smoke.htm
- National Parks Service: <u>www.nps.gov/akso/Fire/firehome.htm</u>
- National Weather Service: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife: http://www.fws.gov/fire/
- USDA Forest Service: http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/
- Temporary Flight Restriction Information: http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc
- Federal Aviation Administration: http://www.faa.gov